

Expedited Procedure Under 37 CFR §1.116

Application No. 10/553,666

Paper Dated: August 30, 2010

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of March 30, 2010

Attorney Docket No. 4623-053150

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

DO NOT ENTER: /N.D./

1. -- 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A mounting device for a gutter for buildings that extends in a first longitudinal direction, the mounting device comprising an elongated device body that extends in a second longitudinal direction between opposite ends, the body including an attachment section which is attachable to the building and a gutter mounting section, wherein said elongated body includes a generally U-shaped portion, legs of the U-shaped portion being spaced apart so as to provide a recess therebetween for closely receiving part of the gutter with opposite surfaces of the gutter part being in facing relation with respective legs of the U-shaped portion, the gutter mounting section including a plurality of gutter retaining clips spaced apart from one another in the second longitudinal direction and extending into the recess, the retaining clips being adapted to cooperate with ~~[[a]]~~ the gutter part received in the gutter to retain the gutter to the mounting device, wherein the mounting device is configured such that when the gutter is retained to the mounting device, the second longitudinal direction of the elongated device body is substantially parallel to the first longitudinal direction of the gutter.

8. (Currently Amended) A mounting device according to claim 7, wherein ~~said elongated device body includes a generally U-shaped portion, one leg thereof being of the U-shaped portion is the attachment section and the other leg thereof being is the gutter mounting section, the legs of the U-shaped portion being spaced apart so as to provide a recess therebetween for receiving part of an inner wall of the gutter proximal to the building.~~

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9. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 8, wherein the gutter retaining clips include projections which extend into the recess and are adapted to cooperate with the inner wall of the gutter so as to retain the gutter to the device.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 9, wherein said projections are hook-like elements pressed or punched out of the gutter mounting section.

12. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 8, further including a plurality of access apertures in the gutter mounting section for providing access to the attachment section when it is being attached to the building.

13. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 7, wherein the retaining clips are aligned at an angle with respect to a single edge of the mounting device, corresponding to an angle of a fall required when the gutter is in an installed position.

14. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 7, wherein the attachment section is adapted to receive fasteners to secure the mounting device to a building.

15. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 8, wherein the body is channel shaped and is generally U-shaped in cross-section transverse to the longitudinal direction.

16. (Currently Amended) A gutter and mounting device for buildings, the gutter comprising a generally channel or trough shaped body for collecting water with an inner wall having a gutter mounting thereon, and the gutter extending in a first longitudinal direction, the mounting device comprising an elongated body that extends in a second longitudinal direction between opposite ends, the body including an attachment section which is attachable to

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the building and a gutter mounting section, wherein said elongated body includes a generally U-shaped portion, legs of the U-shaped portion being spaced apart so as to provide a recess therebetween for closely receiving the inner wall of the gutter in an installed position with opposite surfaces of the inner wall being in facing relation with respective legs of the U-shaped portion, the gutter mounting section including a plurality of gutter retaining clips spaced apart from one another in the second longitudinal direction, the retaining clips being adapted to cooperate with the gutter mounting to retain the gutter to the device in ~~[[an]]~~ the installed position, wherein the mounting device is configured such that when the gutter is retained to the mounting device, the second longitudinal direction of the elongated device body is substantially parallel to the first longitudinal direction of the gutter.

17. (Currently Amended) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, ~~wherein said elongated body includes a generally U-shaped portion, one leg thereof being of the U-shaped portion is the attachment section and the other leg thereof being is the gutter mounting section, the legs of the U-shaped portion being spaced apart so as to provide a recess therebetween for receiving part of the inner wall of the gutter therein when the gutter is in the installed position.~~

18. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 17, wherein the gutter retaining clips include projections which extend into the recess and are adapted to cooperate with the gutter mounting on the inner wall of the gutter so as to retain the gutter in the installed position.

19. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 18, wherein the gutter mounting on the inner wall of the gutter is a raised elongated rib which, when the gutter is in the installed position, is disposed within the recess and inhibited from removal by said projections.

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20. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 18, wherein said projections are hook-like elements pressed or punched out of the gutter mounting section.

21. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 18, further including a plurality of access apertures in the gutter mounting section for providing access to the attachment section when it is being attached to the building.

22. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, wherein the retaining clips are aligned at an angle with respect to a single edge of the mounting device corresponding to an angle of a fall required when the gutter is in the installed position.

23. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, wherein the attachment section is adapted to receive fasteners to secure the mounting device to a building.

24. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, wherein the body is channel shaped and is generally U-shaped in cross-section transverse to the longitudinal direction.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a gutter that extends in a first longitudinal direction, comprising the steps of:

attaching a mounting device to a surface of a building, the mounting device comprising an elongated device body ~~that extends~~ includes a generally U-shaped portion, the legs of the U-shaped portion being spaced apart so as to provide a recess therebetween for closely receiving part of the gutter with opposite surfaces of the gutter part being in facing relation with respective legs of the U-shaped portion, the elongated device body extending in a second longitudinal direction between opposite ends and including a plurality of retaining clips

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that extend into the recess, the mounting device being positioned on the building so that U-shaped portion is disposed adjacent to the surface of the building and the clips are aligned so as to correspond to an angle of a fall required when the gutter is in an installed position; and

mounting the gutter to the device by moving the gutter to the installed position where an inner wall of the gutter extends into the recess and the retaining clips cooperate with the gutter to retain the gutter in the installed position, wherein in the installed position, the first longitudinal direction of the gutter is substantially parallel to the second longitudinal direction of the elongated device body.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a gutter according to claim 25, wherein the retaining clips of the mounting device are aligned at an angle with respect to a single edge of the mounting device corresponding to the angle of the fall, and the step of attaching the mounting device to the building further comprises aligning the single edge of the mounting device to an edge of the building.

27. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 7, wherein at least two retaining clips of the mounting device are aligned, such that the at least two retaining clips are able to simultaneously engage the gutter to retain the gutter to the mounting device.

28. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, wherein at least two retaining clips of the mounting device are aligned, such that the at least two retaining clips are able to simultaneously engage the gutter to retain the gutter to the mounting device.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a gutter according to claim 25, wherein at least two retaining clips of the mounting device are aligned, engage the gutter, and the step of attaching the mounting device to the building further comprises mounting the gutter to the mounting device such that at least two retaining clips simultaneously engage the gutter.

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30. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 7, wherein the gutter mounting section includes a plurality of access apertures for providing access to the attachment section.

31. (Previously Presented) A mounting device according to claim 30, wherein the access apertures are provided in the gutter mounting section in an alternating arrangement with the mounting clips.

32. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 16, wherein the gutter mounting section includes a plurality of access apertures for providing access to the attachment section.

33. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 32, wherein the access apertures are provided in the gutter mounting section in an alternating arrangement with the mounting clips.

34. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a gutter according to claim 25, wherein the gutter mounting section includes a plurality of access apertures for providing access to the attachment section.

35. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a gutter according to claim 34, wherein the access apertures are provided in the gutter mounting section in an alternating arrangement with the mounting clips.

36. (Previously Presented) A gutter and mounting device according to claim 22, wherein at least two retaining clips of the mounting device are aligned, such that the at least two retaining clips simultaneously engage the gutter to retain the gutter to the mounting device.